

April 30, 2002

Public Notice for Section 401 Water Quality Certification

**California Department of Transportation
State Route 36 Culvert Rehabilitation Project
Humboldt County**

On April 15, 2002, the Regional Water Board Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from California Department of Transportation requesting Federal Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification for the State Route 36 Culvert Rehabilitation Project. The application covers disturbances to waters of the United States associated with the rehabilitation of eight culverts on State Route 36.

The proposed project will rehabilitate eight culverts on State Route 36, Humboldt County at post miles 1.82, 16.02, 22.26, 23.62, 23.69, 37.60, 38.49, and 39.30. All culverts except Burr Creek (PM 37.60) carry seasonal flow only. These culverts will be replaced when flow is nonexistent, using either partial roadway width excavation or by trenching across the roadway and using steel plates to cover the trench across the traveled way. Either method will use slurry backfill. Rock Energy Protection will be placed at all culvert outlets except Burr Creek.

At Burr Creek, the existing concrete entrance apron with a 3-foot cut-off wall has been undermined. Water is flowing underneath the existing apron and appearing midway down the culvert. To correct this situation, material will be excavated from around the culvert inlet to allow construction of a new concrete apron with a 6-foot cut-off wall designed to prevent undermining. The culvert invert will then be relined with Portland Cement Concrete and reinforced with steel planking similar to the existing invert. Equipment access will be from an existing maintenance access point next to the culvert inlet or from a closed lane with one-way traffic control.

The California Department of Transportation is acting as the lead agency for this project. They have issued a Categorical Exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

Work is scheduled to begin May 2003 and finish prior to October 15, 2003. At this time, Regional Water Board staff is in the process of reviewing the proposed project for issuance of a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification. The Regional Water Board will consider all comments received within the 21-day comment period that begins on the date this notice is posted. Comments on this project should be submitted to Kirsten James at jamek@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov, within 21 days of the posting of this notice.